

House Resolution No. 902

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State religious institutions that have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, the Shrine of Saint Patrick in Clark County's town of Saint Patrick in northeast Missouri, began as a log church built in 1834 in what was then known as North Santa Fe, Missouri; and

Whereas, Saint Patrick Church grew and developed as a Parish that was served first by circuit riders, then by priests assigned to multiple parishes and by short-term pastors, and finally by individual priests who could completely devote their time and energy to enhancing the future of the parish and the well-being of its parishioners; and

Whereas, the original Trustees of the church at the time of its 1879 incorporation, Joseph Uhlmeier, Charles P. O'Farrell, Lewis Moore, and James Ryan, were followed by other exceptional individuals who were dedicated to constantly improving the infrastructure and programs of Saint Patrick Church; and

Whereas, Saint Patrick Church became the Shrine of Saint Patrick thanks in large measure to the visionary leadership of Father Francis O'Duignan, who was born on July 11, 1901, in County Longford, Ireland, and who came to Saint Patrick Church in 1935 with a dream of building a Shrine to Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland; and

Whereas, Father O'Duignan began financing the creation of the Shrine of Saint Patrick through a special shamrock cachet that was stamped onto letters and envelopes and that was the forerunner of the special Saint Patrick's Day cancellation used by the town's post office today; and

Whereas, the Shrine of Saint Patrick is based on Saint Patrick's Memorial Church of Four Masters in Donegal, Ireland, and is Celtic in design with semi-circular recessed doorways, a central rose window, numerous stained-glass windows and Celtic crosses, and a round bell tower:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history and accomplishments associated with the Shrine of Saint Patrick and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for a highly successful Golden Anniversary celebration during 2007; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Shrine of Saint Patrick in Saint Patrick, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Brian Munzlinger
District No. 1

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 902, adopted March 5, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker